

SITUATION REPORT NO. 1
INCIDENT NO. 127
DATE: July 21, 1995 TIME: 3:00 p.m.

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58504

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: A severe thunderstorm struck Bismarck on the evening of July 20, 1995. This storm produced a micro-burst with winds up to 80 mph, hail, and up to 1.5" of rain in one-half hour in central Bismarck. The storm intensified over Bismarck, occurring with little warning.
2. DEATH AND INJURIES: There were three reported injuries.
3. DAMAGE: Homes and businesses in the affected area sustained damages. The roof was blown off a business. In an eastern Bismarck trailer park, patio roofs and carports were destroyed by the wind.

Major damage was incurred to trees which damaged power lines, homes, and vehicles. Streets in central Bismarck were blocked with debris hampering emergency vehicle access. Debris removal and disposal is a major problem in the city.

Approximately 10,000 homes and businesses in Bismarck were without electricity. As of the morning of July 21, officials estimate 500 homes and businesses were without electricity. Up to 15 fires were caused by the downed power lines.

Manhole covers were lifted off by water pressure. Streets were flooded including the 7th and 9th street underpasses.

At the Capitol, the force of the wind caused water to enter Memorial Hall under doors and through windows. At least 18 trees on the grounds sustained damage. Tree damage occurred at Fraine Barracks.

4. RESOURCES COMMITTED:

LOCAL: Bismarck City Commission, Bismarck/Burleigh Office of Emergency Management, Bismarck/Burleigh Central Dispatch, Bismarck Fire Department, Bismarck Parks and Recreation, Bismarck Public Works, Bismarck Forestry Department, Bismarck Police Department, Montana Dakota Utilities (MDU), United Way, American Red Cross, and Metro Area Ambulance.

STATE: ND Division of Emergency Management, State Radio Communications, North Dakota, and Facility Management.

FEDERAL: National Weather Service.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: The American Red Cross provided shelter for 10 people. United Way Volunteer Network has been activated to assist homeowners with cleanup.

Volunteers are assisting friends and neighbors in clearing fallen trees and debris. Relatives and friends sheltered people with damaged homes and without electricity.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS: The Mayor of Bismarck issued a Disaster Declaration on July 21, 1995.

The Bismarck Forestry Department will pick up residents' tree debris placed on the curb to avoid traffic congestion at the landfill.

Bismarck Public Works and Forestry Department are clearing fallen boulevard trees.

Bismarck Parks and Recreation Department is clearing trees in affected city parks.

MDU is restoring electrical service to the damaged area.

State Radio Communications and Bismarck/Burleigh Central Dispatch disseminated warning information as provided by the National Weather Service.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: None at this time.

8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: Montana Dakota Utilities repair crews from Dickinson, Glen Ullin, Ashley, Linton, Hazen, Buelah, and Mobridge, SD are assisting local crews repair power lines.

9. OTHER INFORMATION: None at this time.

Signed _____
Douglas C. Friez
State Director